

Kohler Received Guggenheim Fellowship Award

Wave 31 May 1984

MIDWAY—Dr. Bryan E. Kohler, Professor of Chemistry at the Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and former resident of Wasatch County, was recently presented the Guggenheim Fellowship and has been elected a fellow of the American Physical Society.

Dr. Kohler received his early education in the Midway Elementary School, and later graduated from Wasatch High School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Kohler of Midway.

He then studied at the University of Utah, and obtained his doctoral degree from the University of Chicago.

Kohler was one of 283 chosen to receive the fellowship for science, art, and scholarship. There were a

total of over eight thousand applicants for the fellowship. This is the sixtieth annual competition sponsored by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, made awards totaling \$5.5 million this year.

One of the Nations leading authorities on the chemistry of vision, Kohler will use his fellowship to extend his studies on biologically important molecules to related systems that ultimately may be useful in microelectronics. Kohler will divide his time in the next academic year between the physics departments at the University of Bayreuth and the Chemistry Department of the Max Planck Univ. both in West Germany.

The American Physical Society also has recognized the extraordinary accomplishments of this 41-year old chemist by electing him to the status of fellowship, an honor accorded to few members annually. The society designated only those members who have contributed to the advancement of physics by independent, original research or who have rendered some other special service to the cause of the sciences.

The society is honoring him for "fundamentally advancing our understanding of the electronic structure of linear polyenes, which are the chemical substances used by all animals in their visual systems."

Kohler holds numerous honors including an Enrico Fermi Research fellowship, a National Science Foundation Fellowship, an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation fellowship, and an Alexander von Humboldt fellowship.

Before joining the Wesleyan faculty in 1975, he taught at Harvard University and was guest professor at the Kamerling Onnes Laboratory at the University of Leiden, the Netherlands.

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Pat Duke

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